



# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, January 17, 1861.

**NOTICE.**

Agents for collecting and canceling are now at work in Kennebunk, Falmouth, Lincoln, Freeport, Naples, and other Androscoggin and Saco Rivers. Our present necessities require the immediate payment of all outstanding due by subscribers and advertisers. We are confident that our call for help will be promptly responded to.

**Swindling Nuisances.**

If it were proposed to assess a tax of a hundred thousand dollars, annually, upon the people of this State, to be given away to a set of sharpers and swindlers, for no consideration or equivalent whatever, but simply to go into their pockets to swell their stolen gains, the proposition would be scouted by every man in the community. If a tax of that amount was levied and appropriated by the Legislature in aid of the most deserving and meritorious public enterprise set on foot by our people, it would meet with an opposition almost, if not quite unanimous—but if it were appropriated and given by the Legislature to some of the thousand cheating lotteries of Delaware, Maryland or Georgia, the members of that body would expect and deserve to be met and buried under the righteous indignation of an outraged constituency—and justly.

Yet, such a tax is levied every year; and, what is more, is collected and paid over. Thousands of men, who would resist the collection of a tax laid by the authorities of the State for such a purpose, to the last extremity, actually do pay more than their proportion of it voluntarily, and many of them deprive themselves and families of much comforts to enable them to do so.

Thousands and thousands of dollars are paid out and lost every year by the people of this State, in the purchase of tickets in the various swindling lotteries of Maryland, and other Southern States. Many of these concerns have been broken up and exposed, and their schemes brought to light within the last few years; but hundreds still remain and continue to fleece and defraud the people who seem to have profited little, if at all, by the disclosures of the frauds they practice, or their own experience.

Men who could not be induced to visit a gambling saloon, are not proof against the temptations held out by the men who manage these institutions; and again and again invest the money they can ill afford to lose, in the vain hope that they may by some lucky chance win a fortune at once. Every contrivance and artifice is used by the owners of these schemes, as they are called, to excite the hopes of their deluded victims, and encourage them to try again. By lying reports of great prizes drawn, by specious promises, by letters private and confidential offering lucky tickets, they deceive thousands of unsuspecting persons, who throw their money away, and wait in vain for the promised prize.

We have reason to believe that special efforts are being made at the present time by these precious rascals to reap a harvest in this State. Thousands of our people are receiving through the Post office confidential letters, holding out inducements to purchase tickets, and requesting a remittance. In many cases we are sorry to believe, the money is forwarded, and often to the inconvenience of the person sending it. We give below a copy of one of these letters received by a gentleman of this city, and ask our readers to notice the pains taken by the writer to deceive the unwary. He would have it believed that the person who should receive this had been singled out to receive a prize, and thus create an excitement, (mark the words,) while the truth is, hundreds of others in this vicinity received similar letters, with like promises and inducements. The accommodating and self-sacrificing spirit is noticeable throughout, and especially in the promise to send another package, if the one offered fails to draw at least a thousand dollars—and then the hint carefully expressed that this may be the last opportunity we shall have to place a

trust in us.

ANDROSCOGGIN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. The annual meeting of the Androscoggin Agricultural Society was held in Lewiston on Wednesday, 9th inst. The report of the trustees was presented, showing the financial condition of the Society. The receipts and resources for the year ending Jan. 9, were \$978.28; expenditures, \$896.75. Balance in hand, \$165.49. Due from the State, \$300. Available resources, \$444.21. Amount due on grounds and buildings, \$6,600.57. The following officers were elected for ensuing year:

**President**—Col. Augustus Sprague, of Greene. **Vice Presidents**—H. C. Briggs, of Auburn, and Daniel Holland, of Lewiston.

**Secretary**—William R. Wright, of Lewiston. **Clerk, Treasurer and Agent**—A. Wakefield, of Lewiston.

**Trustee**—J. B. Ham, of Lewiston; Rufus Turner; Sewall Moody, of Webster; J. S. Nash, of Auburn; C. M. Pratt, of Green; G. J. Coburn, of Lewiston, and D. P. Atwood, of Poland.

**Liberarian**—E. P. Tobie, of Lewiston.

Hon. Robert Martin, of Danville, member of the Board from this society, was chosen last year. The affairs of the society are represented to be in a highly prosperous condition.

U. S. SENATOR FROM MAINE. Hon. Lot M. Morrill was elected on Wednesday, 9th inst., by concurrent vote of the two branches of the Legislature, to fill the vacancy in the U. S. Senate occasioned by the resignation of Hon. Hannibal Hamlin. On Monday evening, Gov. Morrill received his friends at the Augusta House previous to taking his departure for Washington. The reception rooms were filled with ladies and gentlemen, strangers and residents, and the occasion was made an exceedingly pleasant one to those present. Gov. M. left in the cars to-day, (Tuesday,) for Washington.

BURNED TO DEATH. We learn from the Gardner Home Journal that Mrs. Almon Packard of that city, on Monday 7th inst. went to the house of a neighbor, imprudently leaving three little children at home by themselves. Returning after an absence of about fifteen minutes, she found one of the children (about two years of age) lying insensible on the floor, with its arms and head shockingly burnt. The children had been lighting splinters at the stove, and this one's clothes had taken fire, its frock (cotton) being entirely burnt off. It lived only an hour and a half after the accident.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR 1860. We understand that the distribution of this document commences this week. By the act of last year a much larger number than heretofore will be furnished to members of the Legislature, and any farmer desirous of possessing a copy will do well to apply soon to the Representative or Senator from his district or vicinity.

FATAL ACCIDENT. A correspondent of the Belfast Journal writes that Joseph McCobb, of Belfast, was killed in the woods in that town on Tuesday the 1st inst. He had been engaged in hauling logs, and one had rolled upon his breast, crushing him to death. His body was not discovered until Friday.

A WOLF CAUGHT. We learn from the Piscataquis Observer that a wolf was caught on Saturday night last in Guilford, by Col. Isaac Weston, which measured from the tip of his tail 6 feet 5 inches—it was a voracious looking fellow. It is the first wolf that has been caught in that county for a great many years.

NEW YORK FOR THE UNION. A resolution tendering the entire military power of the State of New York to the support of the General Government, has passed the Legislature by nearly a unanimous vote—only two members voting in the negative.

GOD'S LADY'S BOOK FOR FEBRUARY. The signature of the article on keeping "sheep on the islands," should be John P. Carter, instead of John P. Parker. Our friend John P. Parker is a very worthy man, but he doesn't understand keeping sheep on the islands, besides, John P. Carter wouldn't like to have us take his good name and fame and give it to another.

STATE TEMPERANCE CONVENTION. The State Temperance Convention will commence its sessions in this city, this Tuesday evening, Jan. 15, and they will be continued during the following day. The meetings will be held, we understand, unless otherwise notified, at Meonian hall.

## Local Editorials.

### The Promenade Concerts.

The series of promenade concerts for the winter at Meonian Hall, were inaugurated last Friday evening under very flattering auspices. A large and brilliant company was in attendance, consisting of residents of the city, members of the State Government and of the Legislature and their ladies, together with other strangers temporarily sojourning here. Among the prominent persons present and mingling in the promenade were Vice President Hannibal, Gov. Washburn, U. S. Senator Morrill with their ladies. The music was inspiring and the scene during the evening was quite an animated and enjoyable one. When the older and more sedate portion of the audience had retired, an hour or so was spent in dancing very much to the gratification, no doubt, of those who participated in the exercise. The next concert will be held on Friday evening of the present week.

### Lectures.

A course of four public lectures have been arranged to be delivered in this city, at Meonian Hall, during the present winter. Tickets for the course fifty cents. Lecturers have been engaged as follows: Bayard Taylor, Jan. 22; Edward Everett, Jan. 31; Ralph Waldo Emerson, Feb. 13; Prof. Paul A. Chadbourn, Feb. 21.

Independent of the above proposed course, we understand that Horace Greeley is also expected to lecture in this city during the winter.

### Ladies' Fair.

The ladies of the St. Mark's (Episcopal Church) in this city, will hold a sale of useful and fancy articles at Wintrop Hall, on this, Tuesday evening, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to charitable purposes. We hope the occasion will prove in all respects profitable and satisfactory to those who are interested in its success.

### Accidents.

Timothy Shepherd, of Jefferson, on the 27th ult., fell from the steamer to the floor of his barn, a distance of eight feet, striking upon his shoulders and injuring him very seriously.

On the 2d inst., Abiel Boynton, Jr., of Jefferson, a lad about 16 years of age, while sculling, fell and broke his leg. Dr. Brown was called and set the limb and the lad is now doing well.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Wayside Notes of Travel—No. 33.

EAST DIXMONT, Jan. 8, 1861.

For several weeks I have written no "Notes of Travel" for the "Farmer"; not because I have not traveled, or made any notes by the way, but simply because I have not written them. I have no excuse for the omission, except the common excuse for not doing, such as want of time, want of opportunity, inability, prevented by circumstances over which we have no control, &c., &c., which simply mean, in nine cases out of ten, laziness, indolence, and want of will to do. There are few men so busy, that they have not time to accomplish twice as much as they do, with proper economy of time and strength.

I have an abundance of time to-day. I am engaged here among these hills, away from the main road, and have been for three days, by the great snow-storm of the season. For the last two weeks, the snow has been almost daily falling, until it is piled over the fences, and there is no traveling for man or beast.

I have read all the newspapers which I could obtain. The Weekly Tribune of Jan. 5, the Banner of the same date, the Farmer of Tuesday, and friend Pike's modern Age printed the same day; so that I am pretty well posted upon what happened in the wide world last week, but what has happened since is among the unknown and unrevealed. In these days of unexpected events, it is dangerous, absolutely dangerous, for one to shut in behind these Dixmont hills for a week, for he must be very firm indeed to stand the shock of a week's news at once. But my head is pretty hard, and my skull pretty thick, and I am in hopes of being able to bear the blow.

SOME THINGS I SEE.

I see a great many places where intoxicating drinks are sold. Some years ago, the Legislature passed an act, and the people sanctioned it, in their primary meetings, that it should not be sold.

The old distinctions there once were in the different grades of spirits, such as Jamaica, St. Croix, West India, and New England rum; the various kinds of brandies, wines, gin, and whiskey, have become obsolete, for the reason that there is in reality, but one kind of liquor of any amount in the market, and the drinkers all take that and nothing else. Formerly, some men would drink a quart of spirit in a day for months, and still keep about their business; now if a person were to drink a quart in a day he would be dead before morning. The effect of the spirit which is drunk now, when taken even in small quantities, is to brutalize, stupefy, inflame the worst passions, and convert men into demons. Formerly, it took a large quantity of liquor to supply the demand. Every tavern, and nearly every store would have their hogheads and barrels on hand at a time. Now, not frequently, two or three four-gallon jugs, or four or six-gallon kegs, will be an ample supply for one or two days, they having scores of customers every day. Formerly, rum which cost at retail \$1.00 per gallon, was sold, with sugar to go with it for three cts. per glass in the stores, and the best of spirits were sold in the taverns for six cents per glass. Now, the poison is sold everywhere at ten cents per glass, although it does not cost at wholesale, half what good spirit formerly did.

The speech of Senator Harlan of Iowa, is generally spoken of as one of the most able of the year.

THE SPEECH OF S. C. BRIGGS, OF GREENE.

VICE PRESIDENTS—H. C. BRIGGS, OF AUBURN, AND DANIEL HOLLAND, OF LEWISTON.

SECRETARY—WILLIAM R. WRIGHT, OF LEWISTON.

COLLECTOR, TREASURER AND AGENT—A. WAKEFIELD, OF LEWISTON.

TRUSTEE—J. B. HAM, OF LEWISTON; RUFUS TURNER; SEWALL MOODY, OF WEBSTER; J. S. NASH, OF AUBURN; C. M. PRATT, OF GREENE; G. J. COBURN, OF LEWISTON, AND D. P. ATWOOD, OF POLAND.

LIBERARIAN—E. P. TOBIE, OF LEWISTON.

HON. ROBERT MARTIN, MEMBER OF THE BOARD FROM THIS SOCIETY, WAS CHOSEN LAST YEAR.

THE AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIETY ARE REPRESENTED TO BE IN A HIGHLY PROSPEROUS CONDITION.

WE HAVE EXAMINED THE INCLOSED LETTER REFERRED TO IN THIS PREVIOUS EPISTOLE, AND IF HONESTLY MANAGED, AND FAITHFULLY DRAWN, AND THE DRAWING CONTINUED NIGHT AND DAY FOR THREE SCORE YEARS AND TEN, THE FIRST PRIZE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN REACHED. BUT WHEN MANAGED WITH THE UNBLUSHING DISHONESTY SHOWN IN THIS LETTER, OUR READERS CAN JUDGE WHETHER IT WOULD EVER BE DRAWN!

THESE KNIVES ARE BEYOND THE REACH OF THE LAW, AND WE ONLY WISH TO WARN EVERYBODY TO SHUN AND AVOID THE LYING TEMPTATIONS THEY SO PERSEVERINGLY OFFER. HERE IS THE LETTER REFERRED TO, EXCEPT THE PREVIOUS ONE:

WILMINGTON, DEC. 20, 1860.

DEAR SIR: Being anxious to sell a pair in your locality, (and make an experiment,) I offer you a pair of knives, which I have made myself, and which I consider a masterpiece. They are made of steel, and are 20 inches long. In the enclosed super-scheme, for the cost of only \$10. On receipt of the same, the package will be forwarded by return mail, and should you fail to draw, at the very least, a \$1000 prize, we will send you another package free of charge. We make you this liberal offer to draw at least a thousand dollars—and then the hint carefully expressed that this may be the last opportunity we shall have to place a

Confidential yours,

SHIPWRECK. The steamer Palestine at New York from Liverpool, brings the following intelligence:

PETERHEAD, Dec. 22. Washed on shore at Buchanan, yesterday, the after part of the deck of a large ship, apparently American built, named "Resolute," as ascertained by a small mahogany nameboard, with raised gilt letters, attached to a beam.

We fear that the above brief record brings a sad tale of disaster, and probably of death to the family of a widely known and respected shipmaster of Maine. A ship named as above sailed from New York in November last, bound to Bristol, England, and commanded by Capt. Henry McGilvery, of Stockton, in this State. It is not probably known when the vessel referred to was wrecked, but the reasonable presumption is that Capt. McGilvery's arrival upon the English coast was very nearly coincident with the date above given.

We have not learned in regard to the wreck from any other source, but the name of the ship, the date of its arrival, and probably of its departure, the port of entry, and the name of the master, are all that body of information which can be obtained by a careful examination of the name board.

The steamer Palestine has been seized by the British Government in aid of the Slave Trade.

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of paupers, losing debts, burying the premature dead, and suffering the young to be demoralized for the sake of a few men in each town enriching themselves at the expense of others, or shall the law be enforced, and thus rid ourselves at once of the evil? Experience has proved that these men cannot be reached by anything short of the stringent application of law. They must be dealt with as other criminals are.



